



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

September 23, 1976

No. 468

STATEMENTS BY
HIS EXCELLENCY JAMES CALLAGHAN
PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
AND THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE
FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING
LONDON
SEPTEMBER 23, 1976

QUESTION: [Inaudible]

PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN: I think I said all I wanted to say before we went in, but clearly, if the proposals that have come up in Rhodesia are satisfactory, then both the United States and Britain would want to play a constructive role. And I am sure that the African countries, including President Nyerere, President Kaunda and President Sese Seko, would all wish to do the same.

QUESTION: [Inaudible]

PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN: At the moment I am awaiting a statement from Rhodesia, and it will depend upon that statement what will be the nature of any responses made by Britain and, I am sure, by the United States.

QUESTION: You mention the African leaders. Are you confident that any proposals and any acceptance by Dr. Smith would be acceptable also to the African leaders who seem to be quite divided at the moment?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Based on my conversations with President Kaunda, President Nyerere and the public statements, President Nyerere, I believe, said if Mr. Smith says what we hope he will say, that then will be considered the basis for negotiations.

QUESTION: And including the AMC as well?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: The United States has taken the position that the African presidents are responsible for producing a consensus among the liberation leaders and therefore we have done our best for the African presidents.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, could you tell us if the talks you have had in the last hour and a half have been merely a briefing or whether you have had some substantive contingency planning and discussing?

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SECRETARY KISSINGER: Well, throughout we have dealt in the closest cooperation with the British Government in attempting to get a full exchange of views which we hope to take tomorrow to the Foreign Office.

QUESTION: Are you going to the Foreign Office just to meet the Foreign Secretary?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: And his associates.

QUESTION: When any news comes from Rhodesia — which one would expect tomorrow — you will be at that time in consultation with the Foreign Secretary. Is that right?

QUESTION: But you are staying on for that meeting?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: No. I would be on my way back, but I would expect that there will be a parallel [inaudible]. If you have any more questions, you will get only diplomatic answers. [Laughter]

THE PRESS: Thank you very much, indeed.

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